



State of Arizona
Department of Education

DATE: January 09, 2014

TO: High School Principal
Superintendent, Unified and High School Districts
Charter High School Principal
Advanced Placement Coordinator
Counselor

FROM: Peter C. Laing
Senior Director
Advanced Placement Programs

RE: Status of 2014 Advanced Placement Exam Fee Waivers for Eligible Low-Income Students

Historically, the Arizona Department of Education (ADE) has received federal grant funds from the US Department of Education (USED) through the **Advanced Placement Exam Fee Waiver Program** to provide AP, IB or Cambridge A/AS Level exam fee waivers for students eligible for the Federal Free and Reduced Price meal Program. This program, in addition to additional fee reductions from the College Board, resulted in eligible low-income students being able to take advanced placement exams at no cost.

However, last year (the 2012-2013 school year) - due to a decrease in the amount of federal funds available through this program - for the first time there was a need for a local contribution (which was covered by the district, school, community, parent or student) of \$10 provided towards the final cost for each exam taken by an eligible student.

Information regarding the final status of this program for the 2013-2014 school year has not yet been released by the US Department of Education. However, it is very likely that the budget for this federal program will be decreased for this school year due to the impacts of sequestration.

Current estimations from the College Board indicate that, due to an anticipated reduction in funding available for the program, that **the required local contribution per eligible AP exam will likely increase from \$10 to \$20.**

Low Income AP Exam Fee Breakdown ESTIMATE for May 2014 AP Exams

SOURCE: *The College Board*

Federal Contribution	College Board Contribution	Required Student Contribution	School Rebate	Total Fee per Exam
\$35	\$26	\$20	\$8	\$89



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The intent of providing this information to you now (prior to an official release of information from USED) is to help allow for potential planning time for any local efforts you may choose to undertake to help support your eligible low-income students with this likely increased local contribution per exam.

We will send out additional information, along with additional guidance, regarding this program as soon as it becomes available from USED.

Thank you, again, for your ongoing efforts to champion the expansion of rigorous educational programs for all your learners!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Peter C. Laing".

- **Peter C. Laing**
Senior Director
Advanced Placement Programs